

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1086

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Joshua Light on his selection as the 2010 Hawkins County Teacher of the Year for grades 9-12.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to pay tribute to those outstanding educators who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Light is one such estimable educator who has distinguished himself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Light has recently been selected as the 2010 Teacher of the Year for grades 9-12 by Hawkins County Schools, an honor most befitting his outstanding tenure as a teacher, as it recognizes the positive influence he has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, prior to receiving this prestigious honor, Josh Light was selected Teacher of the Year for Volunteer High School, where he has served with distinction as the Director of Bands since 2003; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Light attended Tennessee Technological University on a four-year scholarship, graduating cum laude with his Bachelor's degree in Music and earned a Master's degree in Education from Union College with a concentration in Education Leadership and Principalship K-12; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light began his illustrious career as the Director of Bands for Church Hill Middle School and Surgoinsville Middle School and as the Associate Director of Bands at Volunteer High School in 2002, teaching instrumental music to grades 6-8 and creating a combined concert band of seventh and eighth graders; and

WHEREAS, during his exemplary tenure as the Volunteer High School Director of Bands, Mr. Light has masterfully taught the marching, concert, and jazz bands; and

WHEREAS, his marching band received first place and the highest overall scores in marching, music, general effect, color guard, drum major, and percussion at the 2007 All-State Sugar Bowl and has consistently received superior ratings in area competitions; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light's jazz band was also awarded excellent ratings at festivals throughout the state and brilliantly performed in community concerts in conjunction with other high school and college bands; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Light established the Volunteer High School Winter Guard, which has received both silver and bronze medals, earned the crowd favorite award, and was a finalist at the Winter Guard International Pensacola Regional in 2006 and 2008; and

WHEREAS, he also launched the Volunteer High School Indoor Drum-Line, which placed second in the Percussion Scholastic Novice Class in 2008; and

WHEREAS, a gifted musician in his own right, Josh Light's performance experience includes the Johnson City Community Band, Tennessee Technological University Golden Eagle Marching Band, Tennessee Technological University Symphony Band, Tennessee Technological University Troubadours Jazz Ensemble, Tennessee Technological University Wind Ensemble, Tennessee Technological University Saxophone Quartet, and the Symphony of the Mountains Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man also volunteers his time and tremendous talents with Kingsport's show choir, Showtime; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light dearly loves his students, and he has immersed himself in service to children and others not only through classroom instruction, but also through his work with his church, Lynn Garden Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Light is an innovative and inspiring leader in music education, as evidenced by his service with the East Tennessee Band and Orchestra Association, the Tennessee Bandmaster's Association, and Hawkins County Schools' Mentor Teacher Training; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light is a valuable member of the Music Educators National Conference, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, and Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Mr. Light was selected for *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light has earned the respect and admiration of his community through his meritorious service and his dedication to his students while exuding a tireless enthusiasm and a willingness to try new and innovative methods in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, an inspiration to his colleagues and students alike, Mr. Light is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate his students to reach their full potential, both as musicians and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Josh Light epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and he should be specially recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that that we honor and congratulate Joshua Light of Volunteer High School on his selection as the 2010 Hawkins County Teacher of the Year for grades 9-12, commend his exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute his professional expertise and personal excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.